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THE
VOICE
OF THE
PEOPLE, &c.

CONSISTING OF EXTRACTS

FROM

PIGOTT, GERALD, &c.

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DEMOCRAT,—one who maintains the rights of the people; an enemy to privileged orders, and all monarchical encroachments, the advocate of peace, economy, and reform. Aristotle affirms that liberty can never flourish out of a democracy. Montesquieu calls it the nursery of virtue:

Dissolution.—The extraordinary exertions of the continental tyrants pervades only the surface, but the vital spirit languishes within. Like the dying convulsions of a giant, they are not signs of health, but symptoms of a dissolution, and may be termed rather agonies, than efforts.

GERALD.

Emigrant (English),—one who, like Dr. Priestley, or Thomas Cooper, is compelled to fly from persecution, and explore liberty in a far distant land, probably America, the states of Europe, for the most part, France excepted, being rank despotisms. The late dreadful punishments that have been inflicted under the sanction of a government calling itself free; the restrictions imposed upon citizens,

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the intolerable and still increasing taxes, the foreign armies that have been landed, and the military barracks erected throughout the country, have produced an extraordinary effect on the public mind, and threaten such an emigration as ought to create the most serious apprehensions. When Mr. Pitt was called into power, the death-warrant of Old England's remaining liberties, and, with them, of her greatness, was signed. It were preposterous to suppose, whenever peace shall be established, that industry and labour will devote their services to an old, exhausted, worn-out system, working its own dissolution, and which is only preserved in its present rotten state by an immensity of impost, that robs the virtues by which alone it is kept from mortification; while new constitutions, untaxed, with every advantage of climate, and all the irresistible charms of freedom, shall invite them to emigration. England, thy Sun is set.

Emigrant (French),—one who flies his country struggling for freedom, and becomes its enemy; who enlists under a foreign banner to fight against it: One who labours by treason and massacre to revive that ancient despotism, under which so many millions of victims were born *without hope*, and perished *through want*, but under which he himself enjoyed all the *milk and honey* of the land. One who leaves his wife, his children, and every thing that should be most dear and sacred to him, in the hands of his enemies, and who hopes to deliver them by sword, by fire, and by famine; who finds it unjust that these enemies (his countrymen, whom he has abandoned) should seize his effects, and treat him with rigour, although he publicly avows, should he himself be victorious, he will shew grace and indulgence to none: One who complains also, that the foreigners, on whose services he relies, have the most interested and venal views; although at the same time he confesses that these foreigners owed no obligation to him, and that they all had ever been the secret enemies of his country, &c. &c.

Enemy (natural).—*National enmities* have been always produced and encouraged by kingly and priestly policy. The wolf is the *natural enemy* of the lamb; the vulture of

the dove. *By instinct they are so. They must live;* but one people can never be the *natural enemy* of another, unless we consider mankind in the same savage light as the vulture and the wolf. A nation is no more than a member of that large family, the human race, and can only flourish in proportion with the felicity and welfare of the whole. What greater absurdity can be imagined, than that a people, who owe all their prosperity to commerce, that is to say, to their connections with other people, should call themselves the *natural enemy* of this or of that people, and indeed of every thing that is not confined within their own circle! Is it not evident that this abominable prejudice is kept up by a gang of *plunderers* and *monopolizers*, under protection of CHURCH and STATE, who find their advantage and emolument in it?

Enquiry,—according to the modern construction, signifies sedition. In the old English dictionary, it was held a CONSTITUTIONAL PRIVILEGE, derived from MAGNA CHARTA and the BILL OF RIGHTS, for the people to *enquire* into the conduct of kings or ministers, and into the errors of their government; but all things now seem in a state of revolution, and, according to Mr. P-tt's new code, which is implicitly adopted by all the legal courts through the three kingdoms, *enquiry* implies disloyalty, sedition, or treason, and they who are *audacious* enough to claim this ancient *obsolete* privilege, expose themselves to the penalties of fine, pillory, or imprisonment, and if in Scotland, of transportation for fourteen years to BOTANY BAY. The people, however, begin to murmur at the revolution that the word has undergone, and to *think* this is not altogether a FREE country.

Equality,---in the *Alarmist* vocabulary, signifies every thing morally and physically impossible; equal wisdom, equal strength, equal wealth, &c. &c. but equality *truly* signifies, both in France and England, as well as every where else, "EQUAL RIGHTS;" a RIGHT of every citizen, not disqualified by nature or by crime, to the protection and benefits of society; a right of voting for the election of those who are to make laws by which he himself is to be bound; by which his liberty, his property, and his life are

affected; and an equal right of exerting to advantage the genius and talents which he may possess---*the equal rights of nature.*

Flat,---a kind of *flash* word, describing a person easily imposed on, unsuspecting, credulous. One who suffers himself to be cajoled by *words*, without looking to *works*. One who talks of the excellence of our constitution, at the very moment when the constitution is violated in all points; one who has implicit belief in the *parliamentary orators*, who declare "that the people do not pay enough for their *happy* government," while they are taxed at the rate of *seventeen shillings in the pound*, and who urge as a plea against surrendering the least part of the profits arising from their sinecures and pensions, that in so doing, they would encourage a belief that the government was not worth so much as was paid for it*. Great Britain at this day is the land of *Flats*.

Heir,---one who, according to the wise laws of promigence, is to inherit all his father's possessions, to the detriment of his other relations, although he be polluted by every vice, and they endowed with every virtue. Thus, monsters have inherited dominions, and become the scourge of the human race; and thus mankind will continue to be tyrannized over, and to be miserable, till they have courage and wisdom to unite, to shake off the yoke, and get rid at once of all those barbarous prejudices and preposterous customs, that have so long poisoned their existence. [Swift observes, that heirs to *titles* and large estates have a *weakness in their eyes*, and a *tenderness in their constitution*.]

Insurrection.—"When the government violates the rights of the people, insurrection becomes to the people, and to every portion of the people, the most sacred and indispensable of duties." Thus has France declared the people, not only the judges of their rights, but the aven-

* Vide Mr. Montague's speech on Mr. Harrison's motion for appropriating a part of certain pensions and sinecure places to particular purposes,--*Morning Post*, Wednesday, April 9th, 1794.

gers of their wrongs. She has legalized resistance. The voice of truth, speaking through the sacred organ of her constitution, has publicly proclaimed to a listening world, THAT REBELLION TO TYRANTS IS OBEDIENCE TO GOD. GERALD.

Liberty of the Press.—Tremble, tyrants! it will follow you; it will illuminate all the dark and criminal paths in which you try to conceal yourselves; it will discomfit your projects, and deceive your wicked hopes. It tares with an impartial hand the mask from your unblushing faces, and discovers your native deformity in all its hideous features to the astonished view of your once prostrate adorers.

Nations—How long shall the life of Nations be despised and sacrificed for an individual that has no other advantage or superiority than that of cunning, pillage, robbery and madness! Poor mortals, poor victims of pride, of ferocity! despised nations! nations outraged still! O my friends! O my brothers! arise, resume the sceptre of the world; to you it is due; you can take it; the power lies in your own hands. Shall it never cease to be devoted to the service of tyrants? Hurl those mean, sultans from their thrones, and let laws and eternal morality fill their places.

Crimes of the Kings of France

Reason.—A *reason* has been assigned for our aggression upon France, which those who assign it, while they secretly laugh at the dupes of their imposture, do not themselves believe. It has, however, made an impression upon many good men, and for that reason alone deserves a refutation. With the present government of France, we cannot treat, say ministers, because they are a gang of atheists, whom no treaties and no signatures can bind. Those who prefer so heavy a charge should at least be as ready with their proof, as they are ready with their accusation. But on this head they are silent. Because *one* madman in the convention avowed himself an atheist, are we authorized to brand the whole body with opprobrium?

Well might we assert, that the good commons of England are righteous overmuch, because Hill is a methodist; as well might we assert, that they are an assembly of madmen, because, Burke in the paroxysms of his rage, has brandished a dagger. Is a charge to be brought against the new government of France, as a pretext for the war, of that very vice of which the old government, which we are labouring to restore, was so notoriously guilty? Before the revolution, atheism was avowedly the creed of the court; and while atheism was professed, even worse than atheism was practised; as he who professes that he believes in no God, is not so bad as he who lives as if there was none. During the æra of royalty, France was governed neither by the precepts of morality, nor the injunctions of religion. She was governed by will. By the arbitrary of the worst of her own subjects; of the worst of both sexes; of the worst of the human race. By Maria Antonjetta, a profligate adulteress; by her patric Polignac, by Provence, by Artois, by Callone, by Breteuil; by princes that were stupid or mad; by women that were abandoned to ambition and to lust; by ministers who are exiled plunderers, panders and parasites, insolent and rapacious. Yet with this sweet unleavened mass the cabinet of St. James's disdain not to hold intercourse, and at this period are receiving into their bosoms the missionaries of those, at whose gigantic crimes the great author himself must look with envy and exultation.

GERALD.

Robber.—A highwayman who strips you on the road, is brought for a single depredation to the scaffold; and the assassins of nations, who deluge the earth with the blood of its inhabitants, die on a bed surrounded with kneeling slaves. Will nations never do themselves justice? I hope, that after all some savage conqueror, some king, some tyrant, will pay with his head the violation of the eternal rights of man and nature.—*How prophetic!*

Crimes of the Kings of France.

Sceptre,—one of the ensigns of royalty, which Pitt appears to have a longing after, if we may judge from the

following soliloquy, in which he was over-heard one night, in a perturbed sleep, when his mind had got the political night-mare :

“ Is this a *sceptre* which I see before me,
 “ The handle towards my hand?—Come, let me
 “ clutch thee;
 “ I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.”

This happened, as I am informed, during the king's m——, illness I mean.

Seamen.—Judge Foster justifies the impressing of Seamen, by the following argument: that “ all orders of men ought to contribute to the support of the state; that these men have been used to a sea-faring life; that consequently they can be of more service than raw, inexperienced land-lubbers, THEREFORE they ought to be *made* to go, if they will not go voluntarily.”—No matter how they are situated in their domestic concerns! How long will this iniquity last?

Season for Reform.—Not when we are at war, for then all is hurry and confusion, and our minds too heated and agitated to set about so serious an affair. Not when we are at peace, for then it would be madness to disturb the tranquillity of the nation.

Sedition,—any thought, word, or action of your life, if brought into a court of—justice, and determined so by a corrupt judge, and *settled* so by a packed jury.—Dreams may be seditious!

Sedition (a fower of)---one who tells honest truths, and is above the reach of ministerial influence and corruption.

Slave.—In the West Indies, is a human being, who is marked upon the back with the initials of his Christian master's name. He is torn from his native country, from his friends and connections, from the arms of an aged

parent, a beloved wife, or his dear children, never to behold them more.—And yet God suffers this!

Sleep.---Would to heaven that Englishmen could forget all their cares and all their miseries, and rest their perturbed souls in oblivious sleep! But

“Methought I heard a voice cry, sleep no more!
“King George doth murder sleep—innocent sleep!”

Society,—a union or community linked together in one general interest. But Pitt, that murderer of human happiness! that butcher of liberty! that destroyer of all the dearest ties of love, harmony, and friendship, has dissolved at once all the bonds of love and affection, and set up father against son, and son against father, to persecute each other with unrelenting fury—and all—for a difference of opinion!

Succeeds.—If France succeeds, Amalthea's horn is in her hand, and she pours fourth the blessings of liberty and peace; and if she fall, she brings down with her justice, virtue, and the cause of freedom, and the nation which is buried in their ruins, is happier than the nation which survives them.

GERALD,

Welfare.—These were the kings on whom depended the welfare of the nations. These were the insignificant or ferocious tyrants who have preyed on her these fourteen centuries! yes, during these three dynasties of usurpers, of foreign plunderers, the people of France have not seen a single moment's repose, liberty, or happiness! Cursed forever be the hell-born genius that gave us kings!

Crimes of the Kings of France.

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